

## IS SUICIDE A SIN?

Robert G. Ingersoll Says It Is Not.

What the Genial Philosopher Really Means.

Other Equally Eminent Men Differ From His Views.

A Question Involved Each of Us Must Decide.

A Letter of Powerful Interest to Our Readers.

The eloquent Robert G. Ingersoll, in a recent communication to the New York World, takes the ground that suicide is not always a sin. New York's most eminent clergymen, statesmen and judges immediately filled the columns of that paper with protestations against the great thinker's theory.

What Mr. Ingersoll really said and meant was, that under certain circumstances suicide was not a sin. For instance, he thought that in case of a person suffering with sickness and hopelessness of a cure, it would not be a sin to end such suffering by self destruction.

Mr. Ingersoll's idea was the humanitarian one of arresting pain. But he forgot that it is often difficult—nay, impossible to draw the line when a disease is curable or incurable.

Mere suffering should not be a warrant for self-destruction. Countless cases of terrible, yet excruciating suffering, have been cured even after all hope was lost, and doctors have pronounced the disease incurable. Many a sufferer from disease has been brought to the verge of suicide and afterwards recovered perfect health.

An estimable lady, Mrs. Lila C. Root, who resides at 35 Elm street, New Bedford, Mass., tells the following facts: "I was very nervous," she said, "and my kidneys were in a terrible state, and I had awful pains in my back and side and could not sleep at night. My headache was a source of great annoyance, and I suffered much at certain periods."

"I cannot speak too highly of Dr. Greene's Nervura blood and nerve remedy, for it cured me of my terrible complaints. Why, I felt so miserable that I often thought I would take my own life. I thank God for directing me to this wonderful remedy. I deem it my duty to say that I think Dr. Greene's Nervura blood and nerve remedy the best medicine in the world."

Case after case like the above might be cited, when all hope of cure had been abandoned, and the persons given up to die, and yet this wonderful medicine has brought back health and joy into the stricken household.

Suicide is self-destruction. It is just as much suicide to neglect one's health when one is ill, or when apparently trivial symptoms arise, as to deliberately take one's life. To feel nervous, to have weak nerves, to be tired, listless, languid, to have headache, indigestion, constipation and dyspepsia, to pass sleepless nights, to wake tired mornings, to be ever so slightly run down in health and strength—these are the sure precursors of serious diseases, to be later followed by prostration and premature death, unless attended to at once.

Suicide is a sin, and it is suicide to neglect your health. Take this grand medicine, Dr. Greene's Nervura blood and nerve remedy, and it will make you well and strong. Take it because it cures; take it because it is a physician's prescription; the discovery of Dr. Greene, of 35 West 14th street, New York City, the most successful specialist in curing nervous and chronic diseases, and who gives his great medicine double value by allowing all to consult him, free of charge, concerning their diseases, either personally or by letter.

**NEW HAVEN MERCHANTS.**  
The Coming Grand Banquet of the Protective Association.

The following are the committees for the annual banquet of the New Haven Merchants' Protective association to be held on February 21: Committee on speeches, L. D. Chidsey, Colonel G. D. Post, M. Myers; committee on music, Joseph Johnson, H. A. Stevens, B. A. Bradley; committee on printing, Herman Machol, E. J. Atwater, H. Corthell; reception committee, F. E. Hunn, William Neely, H. B. Perry; committee on banquet, Captain Sucher, F. E. Brooks, J. R. Lyon.

**CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.**  
Judge Sheldon to Read a Paper on the Financial Situation.

The regular meeting of the chamber of commerce was held last evening, but there was rather a small attendance present. Congressman-elect Perry, the president, presided at the meeting. F. W. Shillito was received into membership in the chamber. It was announced that Judge Joseph E. Sheldon would in the near future read a paper before the chamber, which will be a general statement of the financial situation and the claims made by the advocates of the gold and the silver currencies in both parties.

The secretary was instructed to write a letter of condolence to the family of the late George E. Maltby, who was a member of the executive committee of the chamber.

W. S. Wells, who was a delegate to the recent meeting of the State Board of Trade at Norwich, submitted a brief, but entertaining report of the meeting.

## THE HYPERION THRONGED

AT THE KNIGHTS OF ST. PATRICK'S GRAND BALL LAST NIGHT.

The Ball a Brilliant Success—Distanced All Its Predecessors—Lavish and Beautiful Decoration of the Big Theater—Thousands Were Present—Many From Out of Town—Some of Those Who Were There.

The fourteenth annual reception of the Knights of St. Patrick took place last evening at the Hyperion and it proved to be the most successful one ever given by this popular society. The large theater was thronged and grace and beauty were conspicuous in the gay and festive scene. The decorations this year were far different from those of former years and were also much more extensive. The prevailing color was a light green and white. The Philharmonic orchestra was stationed on the left of the first gallery and the American band discoursed music from the rear of the upper gallery. Suspended from the top gallery to each of the two upper boxes was a canopy of delicate fabric of a white and green color. The fronts of the upper boxes were also draped in fan fashion with the same material, as was also the front of the top gallery. The lower gallery front was concealed with folds of white and green chesecloth. Silk American flags and banners were hung at the side of the private boxes. At each of the stage sides of the boxes was a bank of pot-planting of beautiful plants in great profusion were arranged immediately in front of the boxes. On the stage were erected ten temporary boxes which were all handsomely decorated and furnished with rugs and elegant furniture. Suspended high up over the stage was a large canopy of green and white fabric, which entirely concealed the scenery and stage apparatus from view, making a ceiling of beauty. Temporary electric lights were suspended over the stage, each covered with a pink shade. The side walls of the parquet circle and dress circle were hidden from view by draperies of white and green broadcloth satin.

The dancing floor, which extended from the rear of the stage and was completely covered the parquet seats, was laid with a white and green carpet. The whole were beautiful and artistic. The entire effect, as one sat in the first gallery and viewed the large throng on the floor, was one long to be remembered. All the plans were admirably executed, and it was the opinion of all the members and their friends that the ball of 1895 was the most elegant and successful yet given by the society.

The officers of the society are William Neely, president; Thomas J. Kinney, vice president; J. C. Kerrigan, recording secretary; J. J. Kennedy, financial secretary; M. P. Walker, treasurer, and Rev. P. V. Hartigan, O. P. chairman.

Prior to the grand march, which was led by President Neely and lady, there was a concert by the Philharmonic orchestra, the following being the program:

1. March—Naval Reserves.....Guilford
2. Overture—The Maiden at Her Spindle.....Suppe
3. Piccolo Solo.....Selected
4. Medley—The Metropolis at Night.....De Witt
5. The order of dancing was as follows:  
Grand March—K. of St. P.  
1. Lancers—Home Guard.....Promenade—Gitanella  
2. Lancers—Dr. Syntax.....Promenade—Belle of New York  
3. Waltz—Society.....Promenade—Midway Plinthe  
4. Lancers—Bon Ton.....Promenade—Aunt Dinah's Surprise  
5. Waltz—Ludwig.....Promenade—The Little Alabama  
6. Lancers—A Gaiety Girl.....Promenade—Coxey's Industrial Army  
7. Schottische—Serpentine Dance.....Promenade—Moonlight and Starlight  
8. Lancers—Fun and Frolic.....Promenade—Darkies' Jamboery  
9. Waltz—Bowers Girl.....Promenade—Little Marcella Marie  
10. Lancers—Grand Duchess.....Promenade—Liberty Bell  
11. Waltz—All in a Lifetime.....Promenade—Sarakata  
12. Lancers—The Best of All.....Promenade—Manhattan Beach  
13. Lancers—International.....Promenade—Virginia Skeddadle  
14. Waltz—A Gaiety Girl.....Promenade—The World  
15. Lancers—Maid of Plymouth.....Promenade—The Old Stage Door  
16. Lancers—Nervous Rhymes.....Promenade—Little Johnny Dugan  
17. Waltz—Half Past Nine.....Promenade—Night Birds  
18. Lancers—Trip to Chinatown.....Promenade—The First Kiss  
19. Waltz—Airy Fairy Lillian.....Promenade—The Darkie's Frolic  
20. Lancers—Stage Echoes.....

The committees in charge of the ball and to whose untiring efforts the success of the affair was largely due, were: General committee—William Neely, F. J. Conner, James J. Kennedy, William F. Donnelly, D. A. McWilliams, John F. McHugh.

Reception committee—Thomas J. Kinney, D. S. Gamble, Edward Malley, James E. McGowan, William F. Shannon, Joseph E. Taylor, Dennis Kane, T. F. Callahan, John A. Hurley, John P. Carney, Michael Fahy, Thomas Ahearn, John Moriarty, John E. McPartland, Frank W. Foley, Michael Dillon, James Reilly, R. M. Sheridan, William E. Hennebury, W. S. Jones, Robert J. Barry, Patrick Welch, Daniel Hraley.

Floor committee—William Neely, B. J. Dillon, John Cox, M. A. McGrath, D. B. Martin, Joseph Lynch, Thomas H. McCaffery, William J. Maher, T. J. Laffin, James C. Kerrian, Joseph Cridie, H. A. Spang, E. M. McCabe, E. J. Moriarty, J. E. Geary, F. M. Carroll, Walter J. Foley, Michael Dillon, J. C. O'Connor, M. W. Leahy, T. F. McGuinness, M. F. Campbell, D. O'Connor.

House committee—Peter Reynolds, James F. Brannigan, Edward McGowan, Thomas Brennan, John Garitty, William O'Keefe, M. F. Sullivan, James Wrinn, William Geary, Andrew C. Smith, Edward O'Meara, Thomas Cun-

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The temporary boxes were occupied as follows: Box 1, D. S. Gamble and wife, Miss Gamble.

Box 2, William Neely, Miss Hanna of Rochester, N. Y., and ladies.

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Others present were Miss Kittie Reilly, in a white satin, with white chiffon; Miss Margaret Dooley, white chiffon; Miss Alice McConville, white broadcloth; Miss Alice McConville, white broadcloth; Miss Lizzie McCormick, pink silk; Miss Annie Sheridan, white silk; Miss Kittie Moran, blue silk; Miss Jennie Moran, blue silk; Miss Jennie Moran, blue silk; Miss Mary O'Meara, white silk; Miss Katie Teynan, cream white satin; Miss Mamie Flynn.

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Box 3, James J. Hogan, J. W. Reilly, William McEunney, City Collector J. A. McEunney, John Colgan, Dr. R. J. Barry, A. T. Brisebois, Miss Lily Ledwith in a blue satin, Miss Mamie McEunney, white figured silk, P. J. Fahy and wife, Miss Agnes of Bridgeport and Miss Agnes of New York.

Box 10, James Linahan, Miss Cullinan, the Misses Lewis of Meriden, the Misses Spelay of Hartford.

Others present were Miss Kittie Reilly, in a white satin, with white chiffon; Miss Margaret Dooley, white chiffon; Miss Alice McConville, white broadcloth; Miss Alice McConville, white broadcloth; Miss Lizzie McCormick, pink silk; Miss Annie Sheridan, white silk; Miss Kittie Moran, blue silk; Miss Jennie Moran, blue silk; Miss Jennie Moran, blue silk; Miss Mary O'Meara, white silk; Miss Katie Teynan, cream white satin; Miss Mamie Flynn.

Among others noticed were Miss Mary Fahy, the Misses Dillon, the Misses Gihilly, James Campbell and wife, C. A. McLaughlin and wife, Charles Faughlin of New Britain, Miss Kittie Doherty, Tax Collector Anthony, Commissioner John A. Doolittle, Alderman Connor, Commissioner Gihilly, Commissioner Walker, Edward Sparks, Commissioner James E. McGowan, R. M. Sheridan, T. F. Callahan, ex-City Clerk Martin, P. J. Cronan, W. J. Sheehan, ex-Sheriff James E. Brannigan, ex-Captain William J. O'Keefe, M. F. Sullivan, Manager Poll and wife, Rev. P. V. Hartigan.

The orchestra played two new compositions by Edward F. Hogben of this city, last evening, for the first time. They were well received.

The floral decorations were by Stephen Moore & Co., and the other decorations by the New Haven Decorating company.